ORDINANCE NO. 300

AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT CONGREGATING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF BARLING, ARKANSAS FOR NON-COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF BARLING, ARKANSAS, THAT:

WHEREAS, there are various business locations in the City of Barling, Arkansas, where individuals have been known to congregate in groups of two or more for socializing and not for the commercial purpose of engaging in business transactions on the private property with the owner or operator of the private property;

WHEREAS, the City of Barling, Arkansas, believes that private property owners and private business operator should have the right to prohibit congregations of two or more persons on their private property if there is no purpose to engage in business on that private property;

WHEREAS, the City of Barling, Arkansas, believes that private property owners and business operators should properly post their property so that persons know that congregating on that property for non-business purposes is prohibited;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF BARLING, ARKANSAS, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. It shall be unlawful for two or more persons to congregate on private properties in the City of Barling for purposes other than the conduct of business on said private property with the business owner or operator if said property is posted, in a visible place, with a sign reading substantially as follows: "Congregating on these premises without lawful purpose to do business with the owner or operator is illegal."

Section 2. Any person found guilty of violating this ordinance shall be subject to a fine of \$100.00.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall not be construed to apply to persons engaging in the free exercise of speech on sidewalks or in other areas traditionally allowed for that purpose.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Board of Directors of the City of Barling, Arkansas

this 25 day of March, 2003.

Jerry Barling, Mayor